

Appl. No. 10/500,503  
Amdt. dated Oct. 5, 2006  
Reply to Office action of Aug. 28, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the present application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 13-15 and 17-20 remain in this application.  
Claims 1-12 and 16 have been canceled.

In the Office action, the Examiner indicated that Claims 13-15 and 17-20 are allowed. Applicant gratefully acknowledges this indication of allowable subject matter.

Claims 4 and 16 were objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being in improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Claims 4 and 16 are canceled, without prejudice to, inter alia, Applicant's right to claim these features in a divisional or continuation of the present application.

Claim 13 was objected to for informality in that the phrase "... a first portion..." was omitted after the word "includes." Appropriate correction has been made.

Claims 14, 15 and 17-20 have also been amended to put them in better form.

In the Office action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1 and

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9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,580,218 (Harada). In response, Claims 1 and 9 have been canceled without prejudice.

Claims 2, 3, 5-8 and 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Harada. In response, Claims 2, 3, 5-8 and 10-12 have been canceled without prejudice.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

If any informalities remain, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned in order to expedite allowance.

Please charge any fee deficiencies and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 14-1270.

Respectfully submitted,

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